

Claim Amendments:

Please amend the claims as follows

Claims 1-4 (cancelled).

Claim 5 (allowed): An isolated TGF-beta fusion protein comprising amino acids 1 to 160 of SEQ ID NO: 8.

Claim 6 (cancelled).

Claim 7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (cancelled).

Claim 10 (cancelled).

Claim 11 (cancelled).

Claim 12 (cancelled).

Claim 13 (cancelled).

Claim 14 (cancelled).

Claim 15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (cancelled).

Claim 18 (cancelled).

Claim 19 (cancelled).

Claim 20 (cancelled).

Claim 21 (cancelled).

Claim 22 (amended). A TGF- β RII fusion protein comprising: (1) a biologically active amino acid sequence which corresponds to all or ~~all~~ part of the extracellular region of native TGF- β RII and which is at least 90% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 9, ~~or equivalents thereof~~; and (2) a constant region of an immunoglobulin, wherein the fusion protein binds to TGF- β .

Claim 23 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 22, wherein the constant region comprises IgG.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 23, wherein the constant region comprises IgG1.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 24, wherein the constant region comprises the hinge C_H2 or C_H3 portion of IgG1.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The fusion protein of claim 22, wherein the biologically active amino acid sequence comprises amino acids 1 to 160 of SEQ ID NO: 9.

Claim 27 (amended): A TGF- β RII fusion protein comprising: (1) a biologically active amino acid sequence which corresponds to all or part of the extracellular region of native TGF- β RII and which is at least 90% homologous to SEQ ID NO: 8, ~~or equivalents thereof~~; and (2) a constant region of an immunoglobulin, wherein the fusion protein binds to TGF- β .

Claim 28 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a therapeutically effective amount of a fusion protein of claim 22.

Claim 29 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a therapeutically effective amount of a fusion protein of claim 27.

Claim 30-39 (cancelled).